ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

SEVENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Cahaba Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

EPHESUS CHURCH, PERRY CO.

Oct. 16, 17 and 18. 1895.

OFFICERS:

J. P. HARRIS, Moderator,	Harrisburg, Ala
J. A. McCRARY, Clerk,	Pinetucky, Ala
D. J. FRAZER, Treasurer,	Centreville, Ala

PRINTED AT MIRROR JOB OFFICE,
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MINUTES.

The seventy-seventh Annual Session of the Cahaba Baptist Association met with Ephesus Church at 10:30 a. m., on October 16th, 1895.

The body was called to order by J. P. Harris, and after reading a portion of Scripture and prayer by Rev. J. M. Heard, J. P. Harris and J. A. McCrary were chosen as temporary Moderator and Clerk.

The letters from the churches were then called for and read by Revs. W. B. Crumpton and A. B. Hardy; then the body adjourned with prayer by Rev. J. W. Dickenson, to meet again at 1:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 1:30 the body reassembled and after prayer by Rev. Geo. M. Parker, Rev. J. G. Dickenson preached a very earnest and instructive sermon, Text Col. 3rd, 1-2.

The body then proceeded to the election of permanent officers. J. P. Harris was chosen Moderator and J. A. McCrary, Clerk. The following is the list of churches and delegates.

Bethel—T. J. Hunt, Fred James and J. P. Harris.

Bethlehem—E. S. Foster, James Rodgers, Dave Rodgers and Thos. Williams.

Centreville—J. C. Suttle and D. J. Frazer.

Concord—T. S. Bolling, J. S. Bolling and J. M. Waters.

Ephesus—W. J. Huey, J. F. Morton, Wm. Taylor, R. Hughes, Monro Nickles and H. F. Haggard.

Fellowship—J. T. Curb, J. B. Pool, G. W. Carter, J. S. Grey and E. C. Carter.

Friendship—W. A. Fountain, Thos. Mitchell and Rev. J. M. Heard.

Harmony—J. H. Payne, D. S. Griffin and S. P. Curb.

Hepzebah—S. M. Bolling, A. C. Haggard and Rev. J. A. McCrary.

Macon—Rev. J. G Dickenson.

Mt. Gilead—J. A. Potts, D. C. Stewart and C. J. Stewart.

Mt. Zion—D. L. Cruise, T. D. Potts and J. N. C. Brown.

Newberne—Rev. J. W. Dickenson.

New Shiloh—R. Q. Pryer, F. G. Garrison and W. O. Perry.

Pisgah—B. F. Garrison, J. A. Giles, J. S. Heard, W. W. Smith and Rev. J. W. Dunaway.

Pine Flat—J. F. George. E. E. George, E. H. Serrels, Mrs. Lillie Smith and Rev. G. M. Parker.

Pine Grove—J. T. Pool, B. C. Tidwell, Felin Tidwell and Rev. Mr. Ortman.

Siloam—L. L. Lee, T. T. Daughdrill, J. B. Lovelace, Miss Mary Lovelace and Miss Mattie Crumpton.

Representatives of the Judson.

Sardis—P. L. Tubb and W. W. Cocke.

Union—W. T. Stringfellow, M. M. Stringfellow and Jessie Larance.

Uniontown—L. E. Anderson.

Greensboro—Wm. Martin, Wm. Seay and Rev. A. R. Hardy.

Medline—J. A. Frith and J. G. Wright.

Mars Hill—T. J. Lester and S. J. Lester.

Ocmulgee—N. S. Quarls, G. R. Overton and D. P. Prestridge.

All visiting brethren were invited to seats with us, To wit: Brethren J. Y. Friday and Vince Pearson from Unity Association; Prof. J. C. Hicks form Mulberry, and Dr. J. R. Owing form N. S. Kentucky.

On motion the order of business of last session was adopted.

There was a motion before the house that each delegate remain until the final adjournment, if not he would not be recognized by the body as a delegate. After some discussion the motion was tabled.

The following report was read by Rev. W. B. Crumpton, spoken to by himself, then by motion, was tabled to be discussed Thursday morning in connection with Home and Foreign missions.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

The State Board of Missions in Alabama is the Agent for all the mission Boards in the State, besides it is intrusted with the Education of the young preachers and with the work of culportage. While the past year has been the hardest in the history of the Board, we are gratified to see that financially the report compares favorably with those of the last five years. Below we submit the Statistical report, made by the Board, we recommend that the Association agree to try to raise for the coming year the amount suggested by the Board for the various objects, and a committee be appointed to apportion the amount to the churches. We further recommend that the churches adopt the plan of taking monthly collections for benevolent objects, and that the envelope plan be adopted. The envelopes can be had free of cost by addressing the State Board of Missions, Montgomery, Ala.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. CRUMPTON, Chairman.

BAPTIST STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1895.

*State Missions	$ 7,748 86
Church building	3 01
Judson debt	140 90
Bible and Colportage	340 89
Children's Day	128 31
Centennial Missions	4 00
Ministerial Education	1,936 81
Orphanage	372 92
H. M. debt	54 95
Church building, El Paso church	65 75
Pura Cova	58 30

Cuban Missions	7 50
Indian Missions	3 72
Cuban Missions, Girl	9 00
Home Missions	3,341 13
African Missions	4 70
Mexican Girl	18 00
Miss Kelly	348 75
Madeira Inst	54 00
Sunbeams Missionary	52 25
Birmingham Missionary	198 31
Foreign Missions	3,828 50
China Missions	118 55
North China Missions	20 90
Japan Missions	17 06
Italian Missions	5 00
Foreign Mission debt	568 76
Howard College	24 41
Aged and Infirm Ministers	12 56
Judson Institute	22 20
Total receipts	$19,510 09

*Of this amount $300.00 is included from Baptist S S Board, Nashville

The following Committees were then appointed.

Committee on Finance—Bretheren J. N. C. Brown W. O. Perry, and R. Q. Pryer.

Committee on Nomination—Bretheren L. L. Lee, B. F. Garrison, and J. C. Suttle.

THURSDAY MORNING, 17TH.

At 9:30 a. m. the body was called to order by the Moderator, after reading and prayer, Bretheren Ortman and Tidwell were recognized as delegates from Pine Grove church to sit with the body. By motion of Bro. Stringfellow, Mt. Vernon church was dropped from the list of churches in this Association, as it has not had any representation for a number of years. The body then proceeded with the regular order of business.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Owing to the short notice which your Committee has had, they have been unable to compile the data necessary to furnish a full report.

The work in all our foreign fields is in a growing healthful condition. Yet, from the very nature of things, there are many obstacles to contend with. The nations, among whom our Missionaries are laboring, are religionists, and are the slaves of their false systems of religion.

To displace the false with the true, the religion of Christ Jesus, the savior of men, requires the utmost tact, patience, perseverance, and, withal unswering faith in Him who said: "I send you out as sheep among wolves; be ye therefore wise as serpents and harmless as doves." The chiefest difficulty, however, in the way of the speedy and successful evangelization of heathen nations is not to be found in the opposition of these nations themselves to doctrines of Christ, but to the indifference in regard their christianization on the part of our churches.

Those to whom the Master said, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. Lo, I am with you all ways unto the end of the age."

Our Foreign Board—Dr. Willingham, Corresponding Secretary, have been compelled to go in debt and now owe dollars, which amount is drawing interest. For this and all other amounts which they borrow they become personally responsible and rely upon us to contribute the money with which to meet their obligations.

The letters from the churches to this Association discover the fact that during the year just ended said churches have paid for Foreign Missions dollars. While the past year has been a hard one, owing to the scarcity of money, it has been a year full of blessing from the Lord. The Barns and larders of our people have been filled with plenty, and if we would lay aside the unbusiness like way we have of attending to the Lord's work, and adopt His plan and honor Him with our substance and the first fruits of all our increase, we would find that our contributions would be multiplied ten fold, and there would come into our souls and barns corresponding increase of blessing from the Lord. Bring "ye all the tithes into my store house, that there may be meat in My house, and prove Me now

here with, saith the Lord of hosts, is I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And all nations shall call you blessed: for you shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts. Mal. 3 11-12.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. M. PARKER, Com.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

The Home Mission Board is one of the Boards of the Southern Baptist Conventions located at Atlanta, Ga. The purpose of the Board is to supply preaching in the destitute places, within the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention. Its work is confined largely to evangelizing the foreign population of our large cities, to the colored people, and Cuba. We would urge the necessity of liberal contributions on the part of the Association in order that the Board may be able to meet the requirements, and visit the most destitute places.

We have great reasons to be thankful for the work done last year, but there is still a greater work required at our hands.

W. A. FOUNTAIN, Chairman.
E. E. GEORGE, Com.

By the agreement made on the previous day, these reports were discussed in connection with State missions, after the discussion of these, several reports by Brothren J. G. Dickenson, A. R. Hardy and J. W. Dickenson, by motion they were adopted.

By this time the hour for preaching had arrived, by request of Rev. J. W. Dunaway, Rev. W. B. Crumpton occupied the stand, and preached an excellent Missionary sermon. Text, Psalms 2nd chapter, 8th, verse. After the sermon an offering was made for Missions which amounted to $19.45.

It was then agreed that the report on Education be read and discussed immediately after dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The moderator called the body to order and after prayer the report on Education was read by Rev. G. M. Parker Spoken to by Col J. T. Murfee.

By motion of Rev. G. M. Parker the report on Ministerial Education was read by Rev. J. G. Dickenson, and discussed in connection with the report on Education; these reports were spoken to by Bretheren G. M. Parker, W. A. Fountain, J. B. Lovelace and J. G. Dickenson.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We have reason to be profoundly grateful to God for taking care of our schools. They have survived, intact, the wreck of many other enterprises and many other schools in all parts of the country.

Both the Howard and the Judson are in better condition than they were one year ago, and the future is full of promise. They have been kept well equipped during the long crisis in the financial affairs of our people. Among the trials they have endured, (successfully so far,) is the compitition with schools that have no fixed standards of scholarship for graduation and no fixed rates of board and tuition. With many school patrons the expences have been of late years a controlling consideration in the selection of a school for their children. The present prospect is a revival of all material industries, farming, manufacturing, lumber and mining. With this returning prosperity, there will come a demand for that which is best in education; and the Howard and the Judson will be largely attended; and they will exert their beneficent influence far and wide.

The two schools have opened the current session with nearly the same number of boarding students, seventy at the Howard and sixty-five at the Judson; while of course the local patronage of the Howard exceeds that of the Judson by reason of the Howard's proximity to Birmingham and the towns around it. The total attendance at the Howard according to our latest information is one hundred and forty-three students, and that at the Judson is ninety Doubtless both schools will grow in numbers considerably during the session.

At the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary there

were reported present on the 10th instant two hundred and forty-seven students.

There are many schools of recognized merit in the State besides the Howard and the Judson and that are not connected with our denomination or with any other denomination They are sustained by the demand for education under the conditions they offer. It is an evidence that the spirit of education prevails among all classes. It is a propitious sign of progress this, that the people value something more than they do pleasure or material substance, that they value Education more than they do Gold.

Respectfully submitted,

S. W. AVERETT,
GEO. M. PARKER,
J. T. MURFEE,
} Committee.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

One of the most important departments of our denominational work is the education of those who, under the guiding influence of God's spirit feel called to preach the gospel. Upon a well qualified ministry depends largely the progress and prosperity of our churches. One of the greatest needs of our people to day is more men in our pulpits who are apt to teach, who knowing the will of the Lord, will instruct others and guide them in its observance.

Recognizing the importance of this work our State Board of Missions has assumed under the direction of the convention this enterprise as one of the departments of its work.

We have at Howard College about 35 young men who feel called to prepare themselves for the gospel ministry, and at the Semenary in Louisville there are ten. We should thank the Lord of the harvest that He has sent forth these laborers and as laborers together with God and see that these men are properly prepared for their responsible work.

Some of these young men support themselves in whole, some pay a part of their expenses, and for the rest they look to the churches, others in their poverty have to depend upon the churches for their entire support. We need for this cause for the coming year $3000.

Every precaution is taken in the selection of these men They must come endorsed by their churches, they must make a written statement to the Board and then they are

examined by a special committee on their enterance into college on the evidence of their conversion and call to the ministry. With such precautions there is little danger of fraud, and we may be sure that money contributed to this cause goes to a most worthy and profitable enterprise.

J. G. Dickenson, Committee.

Then came the report on Finance, which was read and adopted:

We your Committee on Finance find from the letters which we have had under consideration that the churches have sent to this Association for the various objects.

Fostered by our denomination in cash	$269.00
In Vouchers	585.96
Public collection this day	19.45
Total	$874.41

Respectfully submited,

J. N. C. Brown, Chairman.

ERIDAY MORNING OCT. 18TH.

The body met at 9:30, after the usual exercises the body proceeded to business, the report on apportionment was read by Bro. E. P. George, and adopted. The report on Education was taken up and again discussed by Bros. W. B. Crumpton, J. G. Dickenson, T. T. Daughdrill, J. B. Lovelace, J. S. Bolling, J. W. Dickenson, W. A. Fountain and G. M. Parker. Adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON APPORTIONMENT.

Browns	$20 00	Mt. Olive	$10 00
Bethel	25 00	Mt. Hebron	12 00
Bethlhem	15 00	Mt. Zion	20 00
Centreville	25 00	New Hope	30 00
Concord	25 00	New Shiloh	25 00
Ephesus	20 00	Oak Grove	35 00
Fellowship	30 00	Ocmulgee	35 00
Friendship	15 00	Pine Flat	30 00
Greensboro	10 00	Pine Grove	10 00
Harmony	10 00	Pisgah	40 00
Hepzibah	25 00	Sardis	15 00
Hopewell	60 00	Siloam	400 00
Macidonia	20 00	Stewart St	25 00
Macon	110 00	Union	30 00
Mars Hill	12 00	Uniontown	100 00
Medline	10 00		
Mt. Gilead	32 00	Total	$1,310 00

APPORTIONMENT FOR THE ORPHANAGE.

Browns	$10 00	Mt. Zion	10 00
Bethlehem	5 00	Newberne	15 00
Centreville	5 00	New Hope	6 00
Concord	5 00	New Shiloh	10 00
Ephesus	5 00	Oak Grove	5 00
Fellowship	10 00	Ocmulge	10 00
Friendship	5 00	Pine Flat	20 00
Harmony	3 00	Pine Grove	3 00
Hepzibah	5 00	Pisgah	15 00
Hopewell	15 00	Sardis	3 00
Macedonia	5 00	Siloam	50 00
Macon	20 00	Stewart St	5 00
Mars Hill	5 00	Union	6 00
Medline	3 00	Uniontown	20 00
Mt. Gilead	6 00	Greensboro	5 00
Mt. Hebron	3 00		
Mt. Olive	3 00	Total	$296 00

The following Report was read by Bro. T. T. Daughdrill, and adopted.

REPORT ON BAPTIST ORPHANAGE.

The question of establishment of a home for destitute orphan children in the State began to agitate the minds of our Baptist people about five years ago. Mrs. Woodson of Selma, Alabama, about four years since made over to the Alabama Baptist State Convention for that purpose, all of her property, amounting to several thousand dollars, to take effect at her death. This seemed to arouse our people and give a greater impetus to the matter and resulted in the establishment three years ago at Evergreen, first in a rented house, the Baptist Orphanage, one year later a committee was appointed by the Convention to purchase a house for the Institution. The committee purchased a building and 80 acres of land, at Evergreen, Ala., the building contaning ten rooms, and is well suited to the purpose.

The first, and most of the second payments have been made on the place, and there will be due on the first of January 1896, including interest $2500.00

There have been received into the Orphanage since its establishment 48 orphan children, for ten of whom the managers have found Christain homes, leaving 38 now in the home, ten of these are attending the S. W. Alabama Agricultural School, located at Evergeen, the Matron teaches the small children in the home.

The monthly expense of maintening the home is about two hundred ($200 00) dollars, and for this sum the home is entirely dependent upon the free will offerings of the people.

Respectfully submitted,
T. T. DAUGHDRILL, Chairman.

The Report on Temperance was then read by Bro. L. L. Lee, discussed by Brethren, W. B. Crumpton, J. M. Heard, L. L. Lee, J. A. McCrary, E. P. George and J. W. Dickenson. Adopted.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Temperance is a Christian virtue, very plainly taught in God's word. It is a social virtue, disregard of which surely and certainly tends to wreck and degrade society. It is the duty of the churches, of church members, and of church organizations to encourage and promote temperance.

It is the duty of God's servants; the teachers of his word, to teach temperance, to preach temperance, and to lead in every proper movement for the promotion of temperance and for putting down the vice of intemperance.

Of all the methods adopted for the correction of this vice, none has been found so productive of good as the absolute prohibition by law, of the sale of intoxicating liquors. Such prohibition is no new experiment within the bounds of the Cahaba Association. It is a fact, and this fact is a source of honest pride, that in the territory covered by this Association, liquor is sold under the protection of the law in only two places. It is a fact, and this fact is a source of profound sorrow, that there are two points within the bounds of this Association, to which the people both of the towns and of the outlaying districts can and do go for their liquors. For the credit of this association the sale of liquors ought to be prohibited in these two towns. What shall we do about it? We offer these suggestions and facts for your contemplation.

1st—Let the christian preachers and the christian people of these towns do their duty in creating a sentiment for temperance and inaugurating a practical movement for securing prohibition.

2nd—Let the christian preachers and the christian people of all the other churches within this association, give their aid, and their sympathy to the movement.

3rd—The lack of cooperation between the parties above named has already caused harm. The most propitious movement in these latter years for prohibition in one of these towns, and the one promising the most success, was defeated utterly by the influence and opposition of those who lived in the prohibition district of the association.

L. L. Lee, Chairman.

By motion of Rev. J. G. Dickenson the regular order of business was suspended in order that Bro. Hardy might appear before the body in interest of the Greensboro Baptist church. After he had finished what business he had in behalf of the church, the report on Denominational Literature was read by J. A. McCrary. Adopted.

REPORT ON DENOMINATIONAL LITERTURE.

As our minds are influenced our thoughts are directed,

and actions made largely by what we read. How important then, the question, what shall we read ? What shall we place in the hands of our children, and neighbors children. Our land and country has been and is still being flooded with all kinds and classes of literature. Our boys have been reading the history of out laws, robers, disparados and all classes of men. How many of them heve been led to imitate them and have made shipwreck, when if the Bible, Bunion's pilgrims progress, The Life of Christ, the Foreign Mission Journal, The Alabama Baptist, the Sabbath School Literature of the Southern Baptist Convention had been read by their parents and placed in their hands for them to read, at their leasure hours, how different might have been the result. When will our people awake to the realization of the fact that children must and will read and that it is their imperitive duty, to select, inspect and guard the literature that comes into their homes. When this is properly done, who can calculate the glorious result that shall follow. Brethern, for the sake of Him, who has given Himself for us, let us all take, read and study our Denominational Literature, at the same time praying that we may be benefitted, and great good result

Respectfully submitted,

W. O. Perry, Chairman.

Report on Sunday School by Bro. H. T. Stringfellow. Adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your Committee on Sunday Schools begs leave to make the following report:

The subject of Sunday Schools has become a great question before the Christian world. The fruits we have gathered from the Sunday School work are apparant to all. when live Sunday schools are kept up a live church is sure to be the result, peace harmony, brotherly love and ingathering of souls to Christ are sure to follow. The Bible is the Book of God given to man to teach him the way of life, it is the bounden duty to teach it to our children, and to impress upon their young and tender minds the important truths it contains, and thereby aid them in learing the way of life, and in the performance of this duty, not only we teach them but each church member may gain much scriptural knowledge which will strengthen his christian influence.

On examining the minutes of last Association, we find that out of twenty-nine churches reported, that nine reported no Sunday School, twenty reported Sunday Schools with a total of 1004 members; this is a very small membership compared with the church membership reported. We urge the delegates of each church, that has no Sunday School to make prayerful efforts to establish one in their respective churches. We also urge our Schools to use our Southern Literature, published at Nashville, Tenn.

On examining the letters of this Association we find twenty-five churches reported, eighteen report Sunday Schools with a total membership of 677 a very large decrease. Some churches report Superintendents but no Schools.

Respectfully submitted.
H. T. Stringfellow, Chairman.

Rev. H. T. Stringfellow offered a resolution for the arrangement of 5th Sunday meetings which was accepted by the body. which will be found on another page.

The report of the Treasurer was read by Bro. T. T. Daughdrill. Adopted.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

The treasurer of the Cahaba Association begs leave to report the following: That he has received at the hands of the finance Committee.....$278 18
Collection taken after Missionary sermon for Missons 19 45

Making an aggregate.....$297 63

Respectfully submitted,
L. J. Frazier,
By T. T. Daughdrill.

By motion of Rev. J. W. Dickenson $15.00 of the Association funds were given to the Clerk to pay him for his services.

By motion the body agreed to have the Constitution of the Association and the Abstracts of Faith printed in these minutes.

RESOLUTIONS.

1st. Resolved, that we divide the Association into two districts making the Cahaba river the line. Said districts to be known as the Eastern and Western district of the Cahaba Association, that brethren E. P. George, Jas. Waters and H. F. Haggard be requested to locate the time and place for the first meeting of the Eastern, and arrange a program for same.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are hereby tendered to the brethren and sisters of this church and community for their gracious hospitality to this Association during the present session. May God bless them abundantly spiritually and materially. Adopted.

Respectfully,

H. T. STRINGFELLOW.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Education—L. L. Lee, J. C. Suttle and Fred George.

State Missions—J. W. Dunaway, J. D. Frazer and W. T. Pearson.

Home Missions—J. M. Heard, J. A. Cox and J. T. Hunt.

Foreign Missions—Geo. M. Parker, E. P. George and N. H. Thompson.

Bible and Colportage—W. E. Maze, B. F. Garrison W. D. Carter.

Denominational Literature—J. A. McCrary, R. Q. Pryer and Robert Potts.

Temperance—J. S. Bolling, J. T Edwards and J. T. Garrison.

Sabbath Schools—J. H. Pool, J. N. C. Brown and Carter Tubb.

Orphanage—J. W. Haggard, ———, George and J. M. Huey

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

We recommend that the next session of the Association be held with New Hope Church, Hale county, Ala., to commence at 10 a. m. on Wednesday after the Second Sunday in Oct. 1896. Introductory Sermon by Rev. A. R. Hardy; Alternate, Rev. J. A. McCrary. Missionary Sermon Thursday at 11 a. m. by Rev. R. G. Patrick; Alternate, Rev. Geo. M. Parker.

L. L. LEE, Chairman.

The following delegates were appointed to attend the State Convention in Selma, Nov. 13, 1895: Revs. J. W. Dunaway, A. R. Hardy, Dr. A. M. Averitt, and Brethren W. W. Perry, E. P. George, J. P. Harris, W. M. Coffee, H. T. Stringfellow, J. S. Gray, and J. G. Dickenson, J. T. Murfee, alternates.

Motion then offered and carried that this Association adjourn to meet with New Hope Church, on Wednesday after the Second Sabbath in Oct. A. D., 1896.

J. A. McCRARY, Clerk, Pinetucky, Ala.

J. P. HARRIS, Moderator, Harrisberg, Ala.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. Appointment of Special Committees.
2. Receive Correspondents.
3. Reports on different Missions.
4. Report on Education.
5. Report on Woman's Work.
6. Report on Temperance.
7. Report on Sabbath Schools.
8. Report on Bible and Colportage.
9. Report on Orphanage.
10. Report on Denominational Literature.
11. Report of Special Committees.

BAPTIST CONFESSION OF FAITH.

As adopted by the Cahaba Association.

I. Of the Scripture.—We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the centre of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

II. Of the True of God.—That there is one, and only one, true and living God. whose name is Jehovah, the maker and supreme ruler of heaven and earth, inexpressibly glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. Of the Fall of Man.—That man was created in a state of holiness under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which, all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of satan and of their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin without defense or excuse.

IV. Of the Way of Salvation.—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who took upon him our nature, yet without sin, honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death. Being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and an all-sufficient Saviour.

V. Of Justification.—That the great gospel blessing which Christ of his fulness bestows on such as believe in him, is justification; that justification consists in the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness which we may have done, but solely through his own redemption and

righteousness; that it brings us into a state of blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every blessing for time and eternity.

VI. Of Freeness of Salvation.—That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ; which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.

VII. Of Grace in Regeneration.—That in order to be saved we must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel, and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.

VIII. Of God's Purpose of Grace.—That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he originates, sanctified and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting. and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God and active imitation of his free mercy; that it is ascertained by its effect in all who believe the gospel; is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence,

IX. Of the Perseverance of Saints.—That such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

X. Harmony of the Law and Gospel.—That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the inability which the scriptures ascribe to fallen man, to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin, to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a mediator

to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

XI. Of a Gospel Church.—That a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only proper officers are bishops, or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the epistle of Timothy and Titus.

XII. Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.—The Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit, to show fourth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in a crucified, buried and risen Saviour, with its purifying power; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation, and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ preceded always by solemn self-examination.

XIII. Of the Chrirtian Sabbath.—That the first day of the week is the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreations, by the devout observance of all the means of grace. both private and public; and by preparation for that rest which remaineth for the people of God.

XIV. Of Civil Government.—The civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society, and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in things opposed to the word of our Lord Jesus Christ. who is the only Lord of the conscience and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

XV. Of the Righteous and the Wicked.—That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem, while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

XVI. Of the World to Come.—That the end of this world is approaching, and that at the last day, Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from their graves to final retribution; shat a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of a man in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1.—The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, who, on producing their credentials, shall be entitled to seats.

Article 2.—The members thus chosen and convened shall be known by the name of the Cahaba Baptist Association, who shall usurp no authority over the churches in our union, or infringe upon their internal rights, but shall merely be considered as an advisory council in all the matters relative to their internal concern. Nevertheless it becomes necessary, in some cases, to have uniform rules of procedure; for example, if one church commit an offense against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender for satisfaction; if she fail of success she shall call the aid of two or more churches in our union to assist in laboring for satisfaction; and if final satisfaction, in the opinon of the helps thus called, is not obtained, the aggrieved may bring the cases before the Association, which shall be taken up and decided upon according to its merits. If a serious difference should arise in an individual church which, upon due labor, cannot be reconciled, she shall call the aid of two or more sister churches to assist in the work; and if a reconciliation be not affected, the helps so called, or the church, may bring the case before the Association, to be acted upon according to its merits. But the Association will take cognizance of no case of the above kind unless a due course of procedure shall have been previously pursued according to the economy of church discipline, found in the 10th chapter of the gospel by Matthew, and other parts of the Scriptures which define the nature of offences and manner of bringing offenders to trial.

Article 3.—The churches in our union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association, written communications, specifying the names of their messengers, their number in fellowship, baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, restored, and deceased, since the last session, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

Article 4.—Every church in our union shall be entitled to representation in the following manner, viz: Chrches composed of fifty members, or under, are entitled to send three messengers, and for every fifty members that may be added one additional messenger. Any church failing to represent herself as above prescribed, shall state the reason to the next session.

Article 5.—New churches may be admitted into our union by

messengers bearing petitionary letters. If, upon examination, they be found worthy and orthodox, the Moderator shall manifest their admission by giving the messengers the right hand in token of Christian fellowship.

Article 6.---The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum, which she is authorized to form and amend according to her own views.

Article 7.---At every session of the Association, a Moderator shall be appointed by and from among the messengers present, whose duty it shall be to see that the rules of decorum are strictly observed, and to take the voice of the Association on all subjects legally introduced. A Clerk shall also be appointed, whose duty it shall be to take proper and correct minutes of the proceedings.

Article 8.---The Association shall have power to exclude, from her union, any church that may violate the constitution, or depart from the orthodox principles of the gospel.

Article 9.---The Association shall furnish the churches with the Minutes of every session

Article 10.---Every qurry sent by a particular church, must be included in her letter, certifying that she has endeavored to reconcile it but failed. In such a case the Association shall take it under consideration, and the voice of a majority shall be considered an advisory answer, which shall be entered on the Minutes.

Article 11.---Querries which immediately concern the general union of the churches sent by a particular church, or introduced by motion, shall be taken up and declared on as soon as practicable.

Article 12.----Any church in our union having a member who is judged to possess talents for the ministry, shall call from two or more churches the aid of their ministers, and select members of the Laity, who, in conjunction with the churches, shall examine the candidate, and if deemed qualified, may license him to preach the gospel among the churches at discretion, which shall be reported to the next Association and entered on the Minutes.

Article 13.---Any church in our union having a preacher, whom she deems worthy of ordination, shall call a Presbytery of ministers from sister churches to officiate in the work, and all the Presbyteries in ordaining of ministers or deacons, or in the constituting of churches, shall be governed by the abstract of faith adopted by this Association.

Article 14.---Any church in our union having a minister who may fall into disorder, and who, after all due labor with him, shall continue refractory, should consider him a fit subject for excommunication, shall have power to exclude from fellowship, and it shall be the duty of that church, in surch a case, to call a Presbytery, and through them demand his credentials. If such a minister return and give satisfaction, the church shall have power to restore him to fellowship as a private member; but if she wish him restored to the exercise of his ministerial functions, she shall again call a Presbytery, who shall be discretionally authorized to renew his credentials; which, if renewed, shall be reported to the next meeting of this Association, and entered upon the Minutes.

Article 15---The Association shall have a fund, supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches, and all monies thus con-

tributed shall be transmitted from the churches by their messengers, and paid over to the Committee on Finance. This committee shall be appointed annually, whose duty it shall be to receive in charge the Associaton fund, and dispose of the same agreeably to order. They shall make at every session a fair and circumstantial repot of their proceedings.

Article 16.---It shall be the duty of the Clerk of this Association to keep a regular file of the printed minutes of every session of this body.

Article 17.---The Association shall not adjourn any session until it shall have finished all business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

Article 18---The Minuets of this Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the session rises.

Article 19---The Association shall in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members present.

Article 20.---Amendments to this constitution may be made at any session of this Association, where a majority of the members shall decide it necessary.

STATISTICS OF THE CAHABA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION 1895.

CHURCHE	COUNTY.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	CLERKS' P. O.	Membership last Reported.	Increase by Baptism.	Increase by Letter.	Increase by Restoration.	Decrease by Letter.	Decrease by Exclusion.	Decrease by Death.	Present Membership.	Number who take Denm. Papers.	Licentiate and Students for ministry	Sunday School officers & teachers	S. S. Scholars.	S. S. Average attendance	Number baptized from S. S.	No. of Volumns in Library.	No. of Periodicals taken.	Preaching Sunday.	Prayer meeting Reported.
Bethel	Bibb	J. McMichel	J P Harris	Harrisb'rg Ala	69	1	3		2			70	2	1	5	55	20				3	
Bethlehem	Perry	G. W. Freeman	W J Legal	Pinetucky "	60	12	9	11	3	12		77			6	25	20				3	
Centreville	Bibb	J W Dickenson	J C Suttle	Centreville "	34				4		1	29			8	64	44					
Concord	Perry	J. W. Mitchell.	T S Bolling	Perryville "	85	3	1		2			87		2	3	55	45	2			1	
Ephesus	Perry	J. M. Tucker.	G W Huey	Theo "	134	12	1	1	4	3	2	139									3	
Fellowship	Perry	J. M. Payne	J A Gray	Morgan Sp. "	130	3	2		4		2	129									2	
Friendship	Perry	W. A Wood	J W Cochran	Ocmulgee "	85	22	4	4	3	4	1	107									4	
Harmony	Perry	T. W. Payne	D S Griffin	Falsome "	13		1					14									1	
Hepzibah	Perry	J. A. McCrary	S J Bolling	Pinetuckey "	47	16	1		2			62	2		6	21	15	8			1	
Macon	Hale	J G Dickenson	J P Hains	Faunsdale "	39				2		2	35	7		6	48	40		60	55	2-4	
Mt. Gilead	Bibb	A. M. Perry	D J McCraw	Abercrumbia	68				11	1	1	54			6	32	20			35	2	1
Mt. Zion	Bibb	S. M. Adams	J N C Brown	Centreville "	47	4	9	1	1			60									3	
Newberne	Hale	J W Dickenson	D S Shigner	Newberne "	34		2		6			30	5		5	24			50		2	
New Shiloh	Perry	J W Donaway	W T Pearson	Perryville "	43	4			2		1	44									2	
Pine Flat	Perry	G M Parker	W B Alexander	Felix "	92				2			90	6	1	7	50	30			50	2	1
Pine Grove	Perry	J M Tucker	S L Pool	Jericho "	30	4			2			32	5		4	30	15				4	1
Silome	Perry	J L Lawless	J C Lawrence	Marion "	205	10	3		16		2	200			18	167	105	8	350	244	evy	1
Sardis	Perry		G F Tucker	Ironville "	67	3			1		2	67								16	1	1
Mar's Hill	Perry	J A McCrary	Wm. Lester	Marion "	57							54	1		6	48	25			1	2	1
Uniontown	Perry	J G Dickenson	O W Wodfin	Uniontown "	68	5	4				1	76			7	37	18	2			evy	
Union	Hale	J W Haggard	Stringfellow	Greensboro "	68	10	2		1		2	76			5	41	22	8			1	2
Greenboro	Hale	A R Hardy	Wm. Martin	Greensboro "	14	3	7		2	1		21	6								2	
Pisgah	Perry	J W Donaway	W W Smith	Perryville "	138	6	6			1	3	146			8	57	40	1			4	1
Medline	Perry		Thos. Sanders	Chadwick "	83	14	2	2	18	6		39										
Ocmulgee	Perry	J W Donaway	J G Campbell	Augustine "		5	1	2	1		3	77						5			1	
Mt. Olive	Perry	G W Freeman	A Miller	Adler "	71	7			4	1		73			3	25					1	2
26+6=32																						
					264							264										
Total					1780	134	58	21	73	29	23	1868	34	4	103	779	359	34	460	450		9

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No reports were received from Browns, Mt. Hebron, Stewart Station, Oak Grove, Hopewell and Newhope.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF CAHABA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1895.

CHURCHES.	State Mission.	Home Mission.	Foreign Mission.	Bible and Colporttage.	Indigent Ministers.	Ministerial Education.	Minutes.	Sabbath Shool Contribution	Orphan's Home	Church Building and Repairs.	Sunday School Expenses.	Value of Church Building.	Pastors Sadiry.	Current Expenses.	Woman's Societies.
Bethel	7.82	3.00	3.29				1.50								
Bethlehm							1.50				4.25	500.00			
Centreville		10.00	10.00				80		4.05						
Concord	3.26	50	5.92				2.00	2.25	5.50			800.00			
Ephesus			5.00				2.00		5.00						
Fellowship	6.93	6.93	6.93				1.20	1.50	1.78						
Friendship	3.44						2.50		3.00		4.00			6 20	
Harmony			4 50				50					400 00			
Hepzibah	1.51	1 50	4.85				1.25		5 00	68.48	3 70	400.00	50.00		
Macon	33.41	17.15	30 20			21.40	1.00	40.00	10.00				400.00		5.00
Mt· Gilead	2.50						1.30		3.75			800.00	90.00		
Mt. Zion	3.30	3.35	3.35				1.50		2 50						
Newberne	15.25	9·88	15.38			9.50	2.00	45.00	28 00		14.29	750.00	200.00		
New Shiloh	6.30	6.30	6.30				1.50		6.60			1000.00			
Pine Flat	21 06	12.61	12.61				1.50		10.00		17.00	500.00	150.00	25.00	
Pine Grove							1.50		90						
Siloam	61.65	27.31	35.68	14.26		14 26	5.00	43 98	14 12	39.00			405.00	259.31	
Sardis			2.15				2.00	2 30				200.00			
Mars Hill		2.36					1.25		5.00			300 00	50.00		
Uniontown	31 69	8.39	27.40			14.50	1.50	11.16	26.45				400.00	36.91	
Union	2.15	3.00	3.07				1.50	3.40				500.00	50.00		
G eensboro	6.50		7.10				1.05						6.90	5.00	
Pisgah	6.50	8.80	10.75			36.35	3.00		10.30	10.00			150.00		
Medline							1.50								
Ocmulgee	4 90		4.11				1.10		15.00			600.00			
Mt. Olive							1.50					320 00			
	235.17	130.08	196 55	14.26		96.01	43.15	259.59	156 95	117.48	33.24	7070.00	1976.90	532.42	5 00

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